Math Lab Algebra I Geometry Epsilon Syllabus 2014-15

Mr. Michael T. Davis

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**Course Description**

What is this class all about? Math is not simply a set of steps to follow or facts to memorize, though these skills are important. Math is a way of seeing the world around us, explaining the way things work, and making the world a better place. This course is designed to help students understand math better, appreciate math more and maybe even enjoy math. Math Lab is a support class for students in various primary math classes. Students will be invited & encouraged to improve math fundamentals and basic skills, ask questions, review topics in Pre-Algebra, Algebra, & Geometry, and ultimately feel more comfortable with math and become more successful in math.

**Expectations in Math Lab**

What should I bring to class? 1) At least one pencil, 2) At least one dry erase marker, 3)Your primary math class notebook, 4) Current assignments from your primary math class, 5) Your Math Lab folder or binder, 6) Loose leaf paper, 7) A pad of graph paper.

This is a graded class that has not homework but revolves entirely around what we do in the classroom. As a result, your entire grade is based on what you do during class time. It’s all about your behavior, cooperation, participation, attitude and doing what you’re asked to do. There are not big unit tests or projects or homework. My expectation is that you treat this class as seriously as you would/should any other class.

1) Keep a positive attitude at all times. Even though math can be hard, try not to get frustrated.   
2) There are certain times to talk, and there are certain times not to talk. Use your best judgment; know

those times.  
3) Calculators will be allowed on a case-by-case basis. Never assume you are allowed to use a calculator. Math Lab will help you do math using your brain.  
4) No cell phone use please. We have computers, and we have calculators, so you won’t need a cell phone

out, accept in a rare situation when there is an app I want you to use and I direct you explicitly to

get out your cell phone. Also, please do not play music in the classroom.  
5) If behavior becomes disruptive to other students or me, I reserve the right to e-mail or call home, though I'd much rather e-mail or call home on a positive note. I may also institute a behavior log for individual students if I believe it will help the situation.

**The Start of Each Class**

1) Enter the classroom and place on your desk your Math Lab folder and notebook/binder from your

primary math class.  
2) Get out a pencil, place your “Entrance Do Now” face down, and write your answer on the back side.

3) Turn the “Entrance Do Now” over when I start the timer and give the green light.  
3) Complete the “Entrance Do Now” by yourself and silently. When you are done with the “Entrance Do

Now”, wait quietly for instructions

**Typical Class Structure**

* There will not necessarily be one set of activities that we follow every day. What we do will depend on the day, the homework you have been given in your primary math class, the quizzes & test you have in your primary math class, and what your primary math teacher has requested that I focus on.
* Each day will start with an “Entrance Do Now” set of problems that you will work on by yourself in silence. This will serve as a daily warm-up exercise that will be graded by another student and turned into me. This Mad Minute activity may take 1 minute or several minutes depending on the set of problems. I will set a timer so that you are expected to complete the problems in the allotted time.
* We may work on a math puzzle, a graph, sets of data, Sudoku, KenKen, or any number of worksheets. On some days, you will work on these together and on other days by yourself.
* There will be time to work on the homework that your primary math teacher has assigned. Please don’t ever tell me there is no homework to do. Unless it is the last day of the school year, there is always something you can work on, try again, re do, review or practice. This time allotted to homework is a very important and structured time in which I will offer guidance and help. You may also work with a partner or ask another student for help.
* Each class will end with an “Exit Do Now” problem or set of problems to solve or a question that involves writing a response.

**Grading:**

25%: Class activities and assignments -- You will be graded on effort & completeness.  
40%: Participation -- All students are expected to participate in class on a regular basis. Participation

includes being on time, being engaged in class activities, asking questions, answering questions,

putting forth effort, being prepared for class with proper supplies, and being well behaved.  
25%: Assessments -- You will be graded on effort, completion, accuracy and correctness.

**Please have this signed and returned to Mr. Davis no later than tomorrow, August 26, 2014**

**Student Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent/Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Who Are You?**

Your Full Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name you want me to use when addressing you \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Study hall period and room # \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Full name of parent or guardian you prefer I contact \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best phone # to reach this parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The phone # above is a (circle one): home phone work phone cell phone

Best email address of this parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How do you feel about math? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What kind of grades do you want or expect to earn in this math class? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you a student who does her/his homework?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to attend tutorial classes periodically? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What activities, clubs, interested, talents, instruments, or sports are part of your life? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

When your classmates reminisce in the future and reflect on their Washington Latin experience, what realistically do you imagine will come to mind when they think of you (how will they remember you)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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In regard to the previous question, how do you want to be remembered? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Where were you born? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What language do you speak at home? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have access to the internet at home? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please share anything else about yourself that you want to mention (you may continue on the back side) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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